



Thursday
JANUARY 13, 2011

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune
publication

★ **FREE** ★
Gov. Quinn said
Wednesday that
he plans to sign the
tax bill into law.

MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE

OBAMA:
'WE MOURN
WITH YOU'

page 3

East Coast has
had it up to here
with snow **10**

We're just here
to do the Super
Bowl reshuffle **12**

metromix
How hot is
West Loop's
new club? **18**



TAX FACTOR

HOW THE 67%
INCOME TAX
HIKE COULD
AFFECT YOUR
BANK ACCOUNT

PAGES 6-7

best bets

By Jessica Gallart

jgallart@tribune.com



For pizza slingers

Frasca Pizzeria and Wine Bar,
3358 N. Paulina St. 773-248-5222

See just what goes into the making of your favorite pie at this hands-on pizza cooking class, where you can learn to make your own margherita or pepperoni pizza. Two glasses of wine are included. 6:30 p.m. \$25.

For hungry hump-day diners

Prairie Fire, 215 N. Clinton St.
312-382-8300

Taste the latest offerings

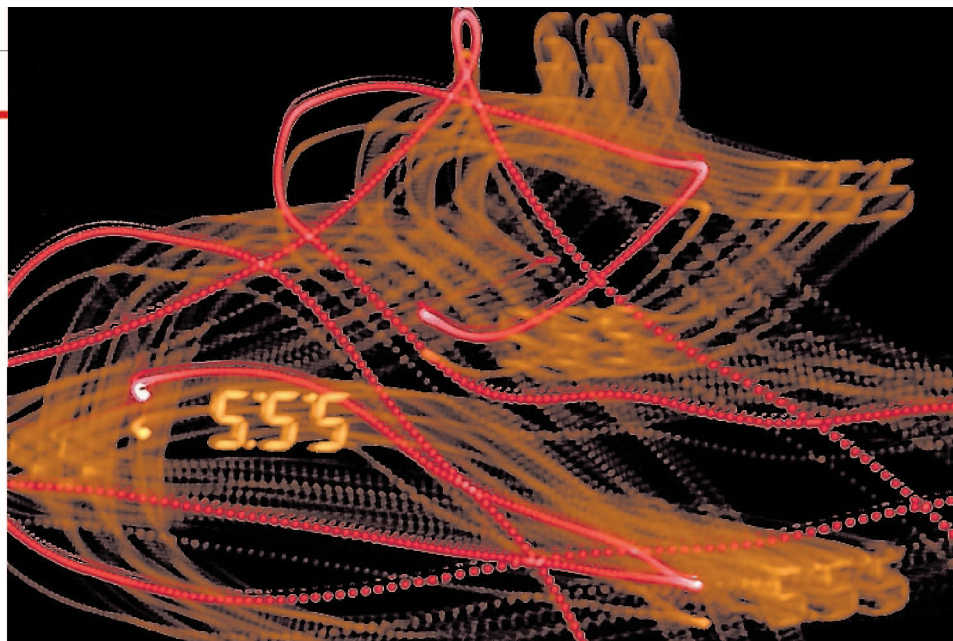
from farmer and chef Tracey Vowell of Three Sisters Garden (and formerly of Frontera Grill) at this five-course dinner featuring sautéed prawns, butternut squash soup and more. 6-9 p.m. \$70.

For sophomoric humorists

Studio BE, 3110 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-732-5450

Scope out potential up-and-coming improv stars at pH Productions' weekly college team showcase, pHarm Night. DePaul University's Cosby Sweaters and Columbia College Chicago's Droppin \$cience teams show off their skills at the anything-goes playhouse. 10:30 p.m. \$5.

FIND MORE BEST BETS AT METROMIX.COM



CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Got some serious skills with a camera? Show us! Each week RedEye picks a theme, and then we post our favorite submissions on our blog. Here is our latest installment.

Your next assignment:

Capture a photo with the theme "Colorful."

Upon completion:

E-mail your best picture by noon Wednesday to redeyetalk@gmail.com with "redeyephoto" in the subject line. Include your name, age, neighborhood and caption.

» See past themes and winners at redeyechicago.com/photos.

LAST WEEK'S WINNER

Theme: Clocks

Title: "Time Flies"

Photographer: Sari Pina,
30, Montclare



25¹⁶

TODAY'S FORECAST

Snow sneaks up on you on your way home



FRI.

26

20
Maybe just wake us ...



SAT.

28

13
... when February is here



SUN.

20

9
Good couch weather



MON.

28

23
At least it's a bit warmer



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President Obama hugs Mark Kelly, husband of critically wounded U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, on Wednesday during a tribute service in Tucson, Ariz., for those killed and wounded in Saturday's shooting. GETTY IMAGES

TIME TO MOURN

OBAMA JOINS NATION IN HONORING TUCSON VICTIMS

Reuters

TUCSON, Ariz. President Obama mourned the victims of an Arizona shooting spree Wednesday and urged Americans not to let the debate over the tragedy be used as "one more occasion to turn on one another."

In an emotional address to thousands of people who packed a Tucson arena for a memorial service, Obama said no one knew what prompted a gunman to go on a rampage that killed six people and critically wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. He warned against seeking "simple explanations."

"The truth is that none of us can know exactly what triggered this vicious attack. None of us can know with any certainty what might have stopped those shots from being fired, or what thoughts lurked in the

inner recesses of a violent man's mind," Obama said.

Obama, who as president has sometimes had difficulty making an emotional connection with voters, faced the challenge of comforting the nation, helping the community heal and bringing people together.

"We mourn with you for the fallen. We join you in your grief," he said.

Obama leaped firmly into the political debate that broke out shortly after the gunfire ended Saturday—whether harsh political rhetoric from last year's acrimonious congressional elections had anything to do with inspiring the gunman to open fire.

"We should be willing to challenge old assumptions in order to lessen the pros-

pects of violence in the future," he said. "But what we can't do is use this tragedy as one more occasion to turn on one another."

Obama began his visit to Arizona by stopping at University Medical Center to see Giffords, who survived a gunshot to the head that traveled the length of her brain on the left side. He also visited four other patients wounded in the attack.

He brought roars of approval from the crowd by saying he had been told that, shortly after he and his wife, Michelle, saw her, Giffords opened her eyes for the first time since the shooting.

"Gabby opened her eyes," Obama said. "So I can tell you she knows we are here, she knows we love her and she knows that we are rooting for her through what is undoubtedly going to be a difficult journey."

Giffords' condition improves

CNN

Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' recovery is "going as anticipated," and doctors are seeing what they want to see so far, the hospital treating her said Wednesday.

Peter Rhee, chief of emergency medicine at University Medical Center in Tucson, said "none of the downward events have occurred at this time" in her recovery.

Doctors have decreased the amount of sedation they are giving her, and she is "becoming more and more spontaneous all the time," Rhee added.

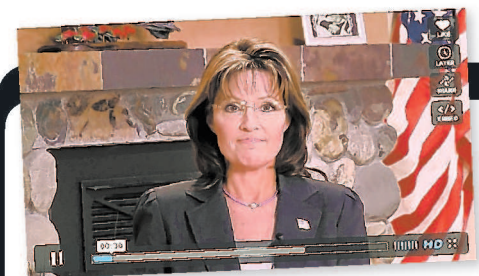
Of the six patients the hospital still is treating from Saturday's shooting, Giffords is the only one in critical condition. Two others are in serious condition, the other three are in fair condition, Rhee said.

Authorities say Giffords was the target of Saturday's shooting. Six people were killed, and 14 others—including the congresswoman—suffered gunshot wounds. Other people were injured trying to flee the scene, the sheriff said.

Suspect Jared Lee Loughner, 22, is in custody.

Across the country, on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on Wednesday, lawmakers stood, one after another, to make remarks about the shooting. The comments preceded a vote on a resolution condemning the "horrific" rampage.

"Our hearts are broken but our spirit is not," House Speaker John Boehner said. "This is a time for the House to lock our arms in prayer for the fallen and the wounded and resolve to carry on a democracy. We may not yet have all the final answers, but we have the answer that matters most: that we're Americans and we'll make it through this difficult period. We will have the last word."



PALIN VIDEO

Sarah Palin defended her rhetoric Wednesday but ignited a fresh controversy by accusing critics of "blood libel" in linking her to the deadly Arizona shooting spree. Leaping into a roaring debate on the consequences of overheated political rhetoric, she said her critics had been irresponsible in rushing to blame Saturday's gun rampage on vitriolic campaign speech.

REUTERS



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Celeb breakups are easy to do

It happened about a week ago. I was ~~stalking girls I used to date~~ checking my Facebook page when I saw the wildest status update I've seen in years.

"Omigawd, Macaulay and Mila broke up! What help is there for me to find someone if they can't stay together?"

Seriously? SERIOUSLY? I see stuff from people saying things like "Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens are done. Day ruined." We've got birds straight-up dropping out of the sky and the "High School Musical" kids ending their relationship ruined your day? You have to be kidding me.

Before I continue, let me say that I'm not naive. People have been living and dying for celeb breakups for years (See: Aniston, Jennifer). It's wild to admit it, but we *like* hearing about these stories. Maybe it's schadenfreude, maybe we're the new Roman Empire. I don't know. All I'm saying is: Manage your reactions. Here are some tips how to do so.

» Make sure to hear both sides of the story

Whether jealousy, adultery or bad publicist advice, always take a second and think: Do I know the whole story here? Odds are, you probably don't. Usually these folks have compiled pretty expansive press campaigns, so be sure to really soak in all messaging from both sides. I mean, it's better than working, right?

» Remember you don't know these people

Let me repeat that: YOU DO NOT KNOW THESE PEOPLE. Why are you spending all this time freaking out about these celebs you've never met? Do you really think you're the perfect rebound for Scarlett Johansson? Do you know anything about her other than she's smoking hot? Come on, son.

» Call your grandmother

Spoken to your nana recently? Do so. Tell her about all of this hot celeb breakup stuff. Notice how she's completely baffled at what you're talking about? That should tell you something about how "important" this stuff is to the rest of the world. (Also, your grandma loves you. Call her more often.)

Look, breakups suck. If you've ever been in a bad one, you know it's absolutely the worst. Why in the hell would you want to re-live that, even if it's from afar? Are you that bored with your life?

This is usually where someone would pull out the ol' soapbox and preach about stuff like watching more public TV and picking up litter in your local park. I won't do that. I'll just say, "Get out more."

And while I'm on it, I'm calling for a moratorium on the following fascinations: celebs who used to be skinny gaining weight, celebs who used to be large getting skinny, obsessing over the fashion choices of famous people's children (actually, all children while we're at it), and pajama jeans. None of those things are positive — and to be honest, this planet would be better off without them.

Wait. Did I just hear Efron and Hudgens might be getting back together? Disregard all of this. Everything is OK again!



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WHAT WILL IT COST YOU?

INCOME TAX LIKELY TO RISE BY TWO-THIRDS AFTER QUINN VOWS TO SIGN HIKE LEGISLATION

Chicago Tribune

While most Illinois taxpayers were asleep early Wednesday, their wallets and bank accounts were being lightened by Illinois lawmakers desperate for more revenue to ease a crushing state financial crisis.

The morning-after reality was this: The state portion of your personal income tax bill is likely to grow by about two-thirds after Gov. Quinn follows through with his vow to sign legislation enacting big tax hikes.

If state taxes would have cost you \$2,000 annually under the old rate structure, it's likely your bill now will jump to about \$3,300.

In Quinn's first year as governor in 2009, he reported adjusted gross income of \$157,122 and shelled out \$4,468 in state income tax. If the new, higher rate had been in force, his personal tab would have approached \$7,500.

With a lame-duck legislative session just hours from expiration, Democratic leaders worked into the early morning to secure party-line votes to hike Illinois' personal income tax rate from a flat 3 percent to 5 percent, which applies to many small businesses in addition to individuals and families. The hikes will be retroactive to Jan. 1, but it could take employers several weeks to reflect the changes in paychecks.

The corporate tax rate also will jump, from 4.8 percent to 7 percent, though the effects may be less sweeping because of breaks that annually help more than two-thirds of corporations in Illinois avoid payment of that tax.

Thanks in part to President Obama, your take-home pay over the next year may not take a noticeable hit despite the big increase in state taxes. That's because Social Security payroll taxes have been reduced for 2011 as part of the federal tax-cut compromise

QUINN: 'HOUSE WAS BURNING'

Gov. Quinn on Wednesday defended his plan to sign an income tax hike that's twice as big as he promised during his campaign, saying the state's "fiscal house was burning."

The governor rejected criticism he had double-crossed voters when he cut an eleventh-hour deal with fellow Democrats in the General Assembly to raise the personal income tax rate 67 percent. **TRIBUNE**



Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie (center, D-Chicago) watches votes come in Tuesday as the House voted on an income tax increase at the State Capitol in Springfield. **MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

ONE EXAMPLE

Consider the example of one taxpayer, Rashad Gresham, 30, a hospital lab technician who lives in a South Loop apartment. He paid \$1,049 in state taxes in 2009 on a taxable income of \$34,952. If the revised rates had been in effect back then, he instead would have owed \$1,747 to the state. Gresham, who is single, said he had no idea how Illinois got mired in such a whopping budget mess, but doesn't dismiss the gravity of the crisis. "People make idiotic decisions all the time at all levels," Gresham said. "I don't know exactly how we got here, but I believe we're here."

worked out last month between Obama and congressional Republicans.

For many middle-income Illinois taxpayers, the reductions from the federal payroll tax cut may balance out the costs of the state tax increase, resulting in little immediate change on withholding from paychecks. But the goal of the payroll tax reduction was to increase take-home pay and stimulate consumer spending, a benefit that Illinois taxpayers may not share in.

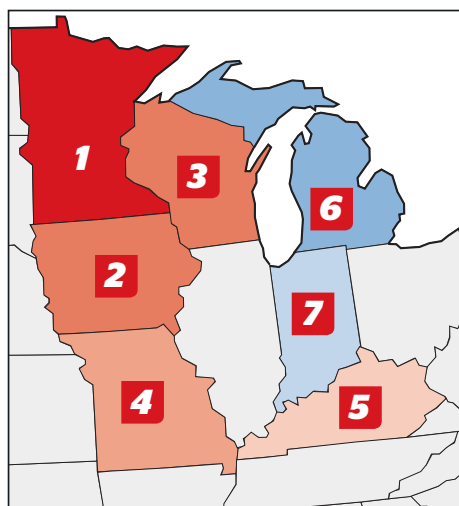
There's also this to consider: The payroll

tax windfall expires after this year, so in 2012 it will no longer cushion the blow of the state tax hike. That increase is to remain in full force through 2014 and then ratchet down in stages over the next decade, dropping to 3.75 percent in 2015 and then 3.25 percent in 2025—still higher than the current rate.

It may be worth remembering that the last time Illinois hiked income tax rates, in 1989, it was billed as a temporary increase needed to get the state through a financial rough patch. But the rates never came down and by 1993

were designated as permanent. Until now.

The bottom line of any tax bill can be affected by an array of variables, including exemptions for children and seniors and credits extended to slightly ease the financial burden of property taxes and school costs. But Illinois taxes generally are simpler to estimate than those in many other states because the starting rate is the same for everybody. With personal tax rates rising 67 percent, the amount you owe will rise by roughly that same amount as well.



Individual income tax rates in nearby states

For single filer with \$40,000 in taxable income

NEIGHBOR STATE	TAX RATE	PERCENT DIFF.
1 Minnesota	7.05%	+2.05%
2 Iowa	6.8%	+1.80%
3 Wisconsin	6.5%	+1.5%
4 Missouri	6.0%	+1.0%
5 Kentucky	5.8%	+0.8%
6 Michigan	4.35%	-0.65%
7 Indiana	3.4%	-1.6%

NOTE: EXEMPTIONS AND DEDUCTIONS VARY BY STATE

How the tax bill passed

Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD Twenty-four hours before state lawmakers sent Gov. Quinn the first income tax increase in two decades, the votes weren't there.

Though negotiations among House Speaker Michael Madigan, Senate President John Cullerton and fellow Democrat Quinn had begun shortly after the governor's election in November, time was running out to take advantage of a lame-duck session before new lawmakers were sworn in.

So in the grandest tradition of legislative deal-making, the power players got to work, huddling with lawmakers individually or in groups to see what they needed in exchange for a "yes" vote.

And the negotiating went down to the last hours of the session early Wednesday morning, with the final hurdle cleared after Quinn agreed to direct some of the new tax money to public education to win votes from the Senate black caucus.

For some lame-duck lawmakers who were either retiring or defeated in November, consideration of a post-legislative career in a Quinn administration was under discussion for votes. For others, a second round of construction bonding offered prospects for new pork projects to bring home to their districts. Still others wanted assurances that new political maps being drawn to reflect the federal 2010 census would protect them from an election challenge.

For Anthony DeLuca, a freshman state



Gov. Quinn

representative from Chicago Heights, it was a private moment with Quinn in his ornate second-floor office, where the governor agreed to breathe life into DeLuca's idea of a bipartisan panel of lawmakers to recommend a half-billion dollars in state program cuts each year. The panel's recommendations would be binding, unless lawmakers disapproved.

Quinn liked the idea, one longtime ally of the governor said, so much so that the governor will make the proposal part of his February budget address. In exchange, DeLuca, the former mayor of Chicago Heights, became the 60th and final House Democratic vote to boost the state's income tax.

"That is why, for my particular vote, that is the reason why," DeLuca said. "I think it was important that we just didn't pass the bill and walk away. This has to be a continuing effort."

FACES FROM THE DEBATE

With the political jockeying lasting until the wee hours Wednesday, legislators were exhausted by the time the session adjourned at 2 a.m.



Sen. Rickey Hendon (D-Chicago)



Sen. Dale Richter (R-Mattoon)



Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-Chicago)



Sen. Donne Trotter (D-Chicago)

Social media says

We turned to RedEye's Twitter and Facebook contingents for their opinions about the tax hike sent to Gov. Quinn on Wednesday. Follow us on Twitter at [@redeyechicago](https://twitter.com/redeyechicago) and on Facebook at facebook.com/theredeye.
COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG.

FACEBOOK

Dave Sorrell: Necessary evil. I'd be more happy if there were spending cuts added, but I suppose we gotta get it through.

Jennifer Tweeton: Have the people who oppose this tax "hike" looked at their income statements lately to see how little we actually pay in state (not federal) income taxes? It is a small price to pay for our students, teachers, and social service providers. We got away with income taxes that were far too low for too long. I am happy to pay my share for the good of the city I love.

Shawn Shrull: It is what it is, the only thing we can do is adapt to the change. Complaining about it won't change anything.

Ryan Yepsen: If you want to continue to live in a state with paved roads, public transportation, education systems, and more - and don't plan on living in a state that can't afford to pay it's bills - you'll have to pay taxes.

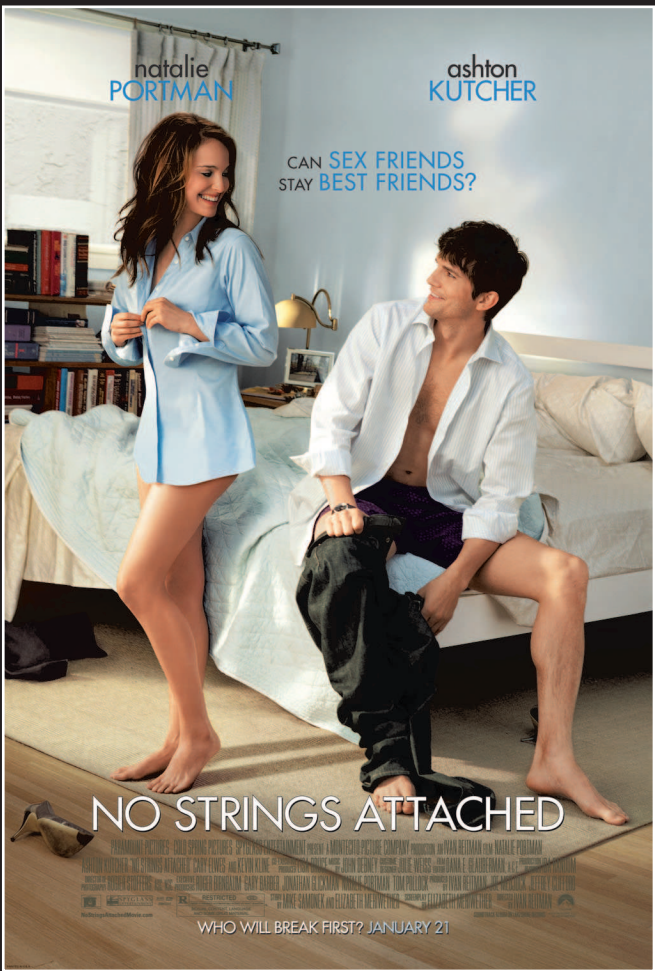
TWITTER

@One4theDagger: My reaction... Way to make me regret the only vote I have as a proud voter since 2005

@JenniferStraub: [Insert Curse Words Here]

@RochelleNicole: Indiana's Gov compared Illinois to the Simpson's and I agree with him!

@sethvermilyea: #Quinn can't squeeze blood from a turnip.



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- **The Green Hornet 3D** (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.
- **Gulliver's Travels** (PG) ♦ 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) ♦ 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
- **True Grit** (PG-13) ♦ 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:05
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) 1:15, 4:05, 7:05, 9:55
- AMC Independent **The Fighter** (R) 1:45, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 1:40, 4:15
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 1:30, 4:25, 7:10, 9:40

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- **Somewhere** (R) 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40
- **Black Swan** (R) 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45, 10:10
- **The King's Speech** (R) 1:00, 3:45, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 9:20
- **I Love You Phillip Morris** (R) 1:45, 7:15
- **Rabbit Hole** (PG-13) 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50

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- **The Green Hornet** (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.
- **The Dilemma** (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.
- **Gulliver's Travels 3D** (PG) 12:40, 3:00, 6:40, 9:30
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
- **Yogi Bear 3D** (PG) 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 8:45
- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) 12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:15, 10:45
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 1:20, 2:00, 4:20, 5:00, 7:20, 8:00, 10:10, 10:50
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 4:30, 10:20
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 1:30, 2:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:30
- **The Fighter** (R) 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 7:40, 9:50, 10:40
- **Yogi Bear** (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** (PG) 5:20, 7:55
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 12:15, 3:10, 10:15
- **Tangled** (PG) 1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35
- **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1** (PG-13) 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40

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- **The King's Speech** (R) 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 5:45, 7:45, 9:45
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
- **Black Swan** (R) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

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- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) ♦ 11:05, 1:30, 4:05, 6:35, 9:15
- **Gulliver's Travels** (PG) ♦ 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) ♦ 10:45, 1:05, 3:25, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30
- **Tron: Legacy** (PG) 10:50, 12:15, 1:40, 3:05, 4:30, 5:55, 7:20, 9:00, 10:10
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35
- **Yogi Bear 3D** (PG) ♦ 12:30, 2:35, 4:50, 7:00, 9:15
- **Yogi Bear** (PG) ♦ 11:15, 1:25, 3:55, 6:15, 8:35
- AMC Independent **The Fighter** (R) 10:55, 1:35, 4:25, 5:50, 7:05, 8:30, 9:50
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** (PG) 11:25, 2:00, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 11:20, 1:50, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40
- **Tangled** (PG) 11:40, 2:20, 5:05, 7:35, 9:55
- **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1** (PG-13) 11:30, 2:40
- **Unstoppable** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:30

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street
(312) 846-2800

- **Guy and Madeline on a Park Bench** (NR) 6:00 P.M.
- **My Dog Tulip** (NR) 6:15, 8:00
- **The Legend of Pale Male** (NR) 7:45 P.M.

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

- **Tangled** (PG) 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35
- **Due Date** (R) 1:00, 2:50, 4:50, 6:40, 8:30, 10:20
- **Burlesque** (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
- **Megamind** (PG) 12:50, 2:40, 4:40, 6:30, 8:20, 10:10

MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604

- **My Uncle** (NR) 5:00, 7:20
- **Casino Jack** (R) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
- **All Good Things** (R) 9:40 P.M.

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N. Wells, Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- **The Social Network** (PG-13) 2:25, 5:00, 7:45
- AMC Independent **No One Killed Jessica** (NR) 3:30, 7:00
- AMC Independent **Fair Game** (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:30
- AMC Independent **Inside Job** (PG-13) 2:45, 5:15, 8:00

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)

322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago
(888) AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- AMC Independent **Blue Valentine** (R) 11:30, 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 7:05, 8:05, 9:55, 10:55
- AMC Independent **The King's Speech** (R) ♦ 10:10 P.M.
- AMC Independent **The King's Speech** (R) ♦ 11:05, 1:05, 2:10, 4:10, 5:10, 7:15, 8:15
- **The Dilemma** (PG-13) ♦ 12:01 A.M.
- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) 11:20, 1:10, 2:10, 3:55, 4:55, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:10
- **The Green Hornet 3D** (PG-13) ♦ 12:01 A.M.
- **The Social Network** (PG-13) 9:25 P.M.
- AMC Independent **Country Strong** (PG-13) ♦ 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:55
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 11:45, 1:25, 2:25, 4:10, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30, 11:05
- **Gulliver's Travels 3D** (PG) 11:55, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35
- **True Grit** (PG-13) ♦ 11:40, 1:35, 2:35, 4:25, 5:35, 7:15, 8:20, 9:55, 10:50
- AMC Independent **Black Swan** (R) 11:50, 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:20, 7:25, 8:15, 10:15, 11:20
- **Yogi Bear 3D** (PG) ♦ 11:55, 2:15, 4:35
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 11:10, 2:10, 5:05, 7:00, 8:10, 10:00, 11:00
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) 1:45, 7:40
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 11:25, 4:50, 10:25
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 11:15, 2:05, 10:35
- **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1** (PG-13) 11:35, 2:50, 6:05
- **Tangled 3D** (PG) 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)

7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309

- AMC Independent **The King's Speech** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
- **The Dilemma** (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.
- **Gulliver's Travels 3D** (PG) 11:10, 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:20
- **The Green Hornet** (PG-13) 1:15, 2:10, 3:50, 4:50, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:15
- **The Green Hornet** (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.
- **The Social Network** (PG-13) 4:50, 11:00
- AMC Independent **Country Strong** (PG-13) 2:15, 5:15, 8:15, 10:55
- **Gulliver's Travels 3D** (PG) 2:45, 7:45, 10:20
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 2:00, 3:15, 4:35, 7:20, 9:05, 10:00
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 12:25, 1:50, 4:45, 6:15, 7:40, 10:35
- AMC Independent **Black Swan** (R) 1:05, 3:55, 6:50, 9:40
- **Tron: Legacy** (PG) 1:40, 8:00
- **Yogi Bear 3D** (PG) 12:55, 3:20, 8:10, 10:30
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) 7:15, 10:25
- **Tron: Legacy** (PG) 12:50, 3:20, 6:30, 9:45
- AMC Independent **The Fighter** (R) 1:45, 4:55, 7:50, 10:45
- **Yogi Bear** (PG) 12:05, 2:20, 4:40
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 12:05, 2:50, 5:35, 8:20, 10:50
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 12:00, 2:35, 5:40, 8:30
- **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1** (PG-13) 12:40, 3:55, 7:10, 10:40
- **Tangled** (PG) 12:10, 5:10

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

- **The Green Hornet** (PG-13) Advance Tickets Available
- **The Dilemma** (PG-13) Advance Tickets Available
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 3:20, 9:20
- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
- **Country Strong** (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:20
- **The Fighter** (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30
- **Gulliver's Travels** (PG) 1:10, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:05
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 2:00, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** (PG) 6:30 P.M.
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)

E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646

- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
- **Gulliver's Travels** (PG) 1:00, 3:10, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 7:55, 10:35
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15
- **Yogi Bear** (PG) 2:00, 4:20, 6:30, 8:30
- AMC Independent **The Fighter** (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** (PG) 2:25, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
- **Tangled** (PG) 1:35, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15
- **Unstoppable** (PG-13) 1:45, 4:10, 6:40, 9:05

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)

4779 W. Cermak, Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) 12:10, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
- **The Social Network** (PG-13) 12:00, 5:35
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 12:15, 2:35, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
- **Gulliver's Travels 3D** (PG) 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 1:35, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15
- **Yogi Bear 3D** (PG) 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 2:45, 5:45, 8:45
- AMC Independent **The Fighter** (R) 1:50, 2:50, 4:35, 7:20, 8:30, 10:05
- **Yogi Bear** (PG) 1:30, 3:30
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 12:05, 2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 10:00
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** (PG) 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25
- **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1** (PG-13) 6:00, 9:10
- **Tangled** (PG) 1:40, 4:30, 7:25, 10:10

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION

Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104

- **The Green Hornet 3D** (PG-13) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Blue Valentine** (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **The Dilemma** (PG-13) ★ 12:00 A.M.
- **The Heart Specialist** (NR) ★ 12:01 A.M.
- **Country Strong** (PG-13) ★ 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) ★ 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
- **Gulliver's Travels 3D** (PG) 12:40, 3:40, 6:15, 8:30
- **The King's Speech** (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:20, 8:00, 10:10, 10:50
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 12:50, 1:20, 3:30, 4:10, 6:00, 8:40, 10:00
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:10, 7:30, 8:10, 10:30
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:45
- **Yogi Bear 3D** (PG) 2:30, 5:15
- **The Fighter** (R) 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) 9:30 P.M.
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 12:45, 3:45, 6:30, 9:40
- **Black Swan** (R) 1:15, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 7:15, 7:50, 9:55, 10:45
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) 2:40, 5:20, 8:15, 10:55
- **Tangled 3D** (PG) 1:40, 4:15, 6:40

VIP Premium 21+

- **The Dilemma** (PG-13) ★ **VIP Premium 21+** 12:00 A.M.
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) **VIP Premium 21+** 12:50, 3:30, 6:00, 8:40
- **True Grit** (PG-13) **VIP Premium 21+** 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

OAK PARK LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560

- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
- **Tron: Legacy 3D** (PG) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
- **True Grit** (PG-13) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
- **The King's Speech** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30
- **Yogi Bear** (PG) 12:45, 2:45, 4:45, 6:45, 8:45
- **Black Swan** (R) 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
- **The Fighter** (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123

- **Blue Valentine** (R) 1:40, 3:10, 4:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:25
- **Country Strong** (PG-13) ♦ 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
- **Season of the Witch** (PG-13) ♦ 12:00, 2:35, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05
- **Black Swan** (R) 11:25, 12:50, 2:05, 3:30, 4:40, 6:10, 7:20, 8:50, 10:00
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** (PG) ♦ 1:15, 4:05
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D** (PG) 6:50, 9:30
- **Gulliver's Travels** (PG) ♦ 11:45, 2:15, 4:25, 6:55, 9:15
- **How Do You Know** (PG-13) ♦ 12:10, 6:05
- **Little Fockers** (PG-13) ♦ 11:35, 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:40
- **Tangled 3D** (PG) 11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
- **The Fighter** (R) ♦ 11:20, 2:10, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
- **The King's Speech** (R) ♦ 12:45, 2:15, 4:25, 6:55, 9:15
- **The Tourist** (PG-13) ♦ 11:40, 2:25, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20
- **Tron: Legacy** (PG) ♦ 2:55, 8:45
- **Tangled 3D</**



CTA rider watch

Ridership down less than 1 percent; senior fares under microscope

Chicago Tribune

Despite cuts in bus and train service and a weak economy, CTA ridership declined less than 1 percent in 2010, transit officials said Wednesday.

The transit agency provided 516.9 million rides last year, which was 4.7 million more than projected for the year but 0.8 percent fewer than during 2009, CTA president Rich Rodriguez said.

"There is reason for encouragement considering the dramatic impact the recession has had throughout the year," Ro-

driguez said.

Bus ridership declined 4 percent last year, Rodriguez said. The CTA reduced bus service by 18 percent in February to help eliminate a budget deficit.

Rail ridership increased 4.1 percent in 2010, he said. As part of last year's cuts, rail service was reduced by 9 percent.

Some 70.3 million of the CTA rides taken in the first 11 months of 2010 were provided at no cost to senior citizens and other categories of riders who are covered by a free-rides program initiated by former Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

Free rides cost the CTA, Metra and Pace between \$38 million and \$116 million in 2009, according to a study commissioned by the RTA. The study, conducted by re-

searchers at UIC, concluded that the free rides are financially unsustainable for the transit agencies.

State lawmakers acted on that warning this week by instituting a financial means test. The General Assembly voted to scale back the free-rides program so that only low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled people would be eligible.

If the change is signed into law by Gov. Quinn, the RTA would have up to six months to implement the means-testing program change. All other seniors would be eligible for half-fare rides.

It's projected that the transit system would recoup between \$25 million and \$30 million annually if the free rides legislation becomes law, the RTA said.

2 come to aid of man hit by bus

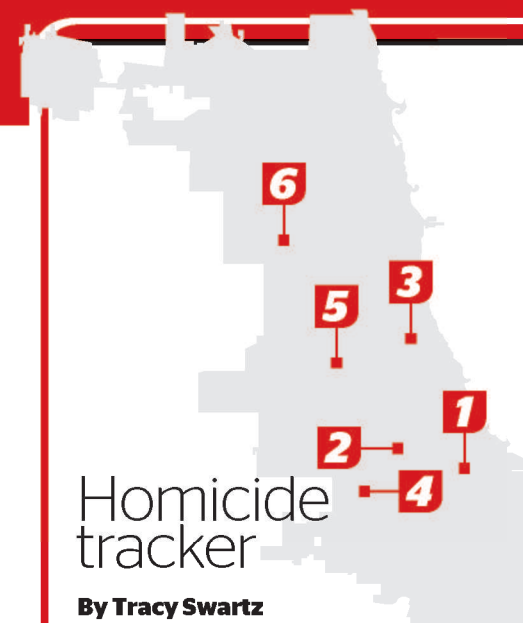
Two Cook County corrections officers came to the aid of a man struck and dragged by a school bus on the West Side on Wednesday, keeping other cars from hitting him and stopping the bus as it left the scene, authorities said. The pedestrian was hospitalized in serious condition.

Walgreens to boost fresh food offerings

Walgreen plans to expand its fresh food offerings in several hundred stores in coming years, its chief executive officer told shareholders Thursday. The Deerfield-based chain said it was part of a strategy to evolve from a retail drugstore to a retail health and daily living store.

President of China to visit Chicago

President Hu Jintao, 68, who has led China since 2003, will be in Chicago on Jan. 20 and 21 as part of a state visit, Mayor Daley said Wednesday. It will be the president's first to Chicago. **TRIBUNE**



By Tracy Swartz

REDEYE

The first woman killed this year in a Chicago homicide was a 40-year-old woman shot to death Saturday in Chatham, a RedEye analysis of preliminary police data found.

In the past three years, one out of every nine homicide victims on average has been a woman, RedEye determined.

Citywide, four gunshot homicides were recorded in Avalon Park, Gage Park, Washington Heights and West Garfield Park in the past week, RedEye determined. The victims were all men between the ages of 21 and 35, officials said. Meanwhile, a man was stabbed to death Saturday in Grand Boulevard.

Eleven homicides have been recorded so far this month, RedEye data shows. Twenty homicides were logged in January 2010, RedEye determined. TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM

Homicides from Jan. 5 to 4 p.m. Wednesday; all locations had one victim.

1 8600 BLOCK OF S. CONSTANCE AVE.
Date: Jan. 6 Cause: Gunshot

2 8000 BLOCK OF S. PRINCETON AVE.
Date: Jan. 8 Cause: Gunshot

3 4300 BLOCK OF S. MICHIGAN AVE.
Date: Jan. 8 Cause: Stabbing

4 9200 BLOCK OF S. ASHLAND AVE.
Date: Jan. 9 Cause: Gunshot

5 2500 BLOCK OF W. 51ST ST.
Date: Jan. 9 Cause: Gunshot

6 4100 BLOCK OF W. WILCOX ST.
Date: Jan. 10 Cause: Gunshot

MORE ONLINE

Check out RedEye's interactive homicide map at homicides.redeyechicago.com, which now includes information on every homicide in Chicago since Jan. 1, 2008.





Deadly floods in Brazil

1 Flooding in Brazil has been blamed for at least 270 deaths in the states of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, officials said Wednesday. **GETTY IMAGES**

Homeland data security

2 The U.S. is building a massive, state-of-the-art data center at the Camp Williams National Guard Post just south of Salt Lake City to help protect the nation's cyber networks. The new center is designed to strengthen and protect the nation's cyber security.

Williams goes to rehab

3 Ted Williams, the homeless man who became a YouTube sensation for his "golden voice," will check into rehab for treatment of alcohol and drug dependency, representatives for the "Dr. Phil" show said Wednesday.

Rare Saudi sentence

4 In what some say is a first for the kingdom, a woman in Medina, Saudi Arabia, has been sentenced to three years in prison for abusing her Indonesian maid, according to media reports.

Tennessee flood report

5 A gap in communication between the National Weather Service and the Army Corps of Engineers undercut forecasts of the deadly flood that struck middle Tennessee in 2010, the National Weather Service reported Wednesday.

Crackdown on tobacco

6 Bhutan police can raid homes of smokers in a search for contraband tobacco and are training a special tobacco sniffer dog in a crackdown to honor a promise to become the world's first smoke-free nation. Bhutan banned the sale of tobacco in 2005.

Storm hammers Northeast

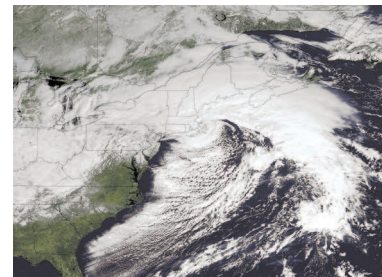
Snowstorms barreled across New England on Wednesday, canceling flights, closing schools and creating treacherous road conditions for weather-weary travelers.

Massachusetts Gov. Duval Patrick declared a state of emergency as officials warned of blizzard conditions across the state and into southern New Hampshire.

Forecasters said accumulation in scattered areas across Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont could reach between 25 and 34 inches, while most areas are expecting 8-16 inches of snow.

Snowfall in the hardest-hit areas could reach rates of 2-3 inches per hour, according to the National Weather Service.

More than 15,000 households were



SNOW EVERYWHERE

Every state except Florida had snow on the ground Wednesday, including Hawaii, according to CNN meteorologist Sean Morris.

without power in Massachusetts later Wednesday afternoon, including thou-

sands of customers in Plymouth County who were affected by a transmission-line outage, according to the National Grid utility company's website. The hardest-hit areas included Plymouth, Bristol, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk counties in Massachusetts, the utility company said.

"This is the second major storm we are battling in less than three weeks," said Christopher E. Root, National Grid senior vice president of electricity operations. "We ask that our customers bear with us and be patient as our crews work in challenging weather conditions to restore service as safely and quickly as possible."

In the South, normally bustling cities such as Charlotte, N.C., and Atlanta grappled with the unusual onslaught of ice and snow this week.



All eyes on Heidi

7 She's middle-aged, gray-haired and stays up all night. Still, Heidi the cross-eyed opossum is Germany's biggest media sensation, and she has not even made her debut at the Leipzig Zoo. The public will get its first glimpse of the opossum in July, when the zoo opens its tropical wildlife exhibit. **GETTY IMAGES**

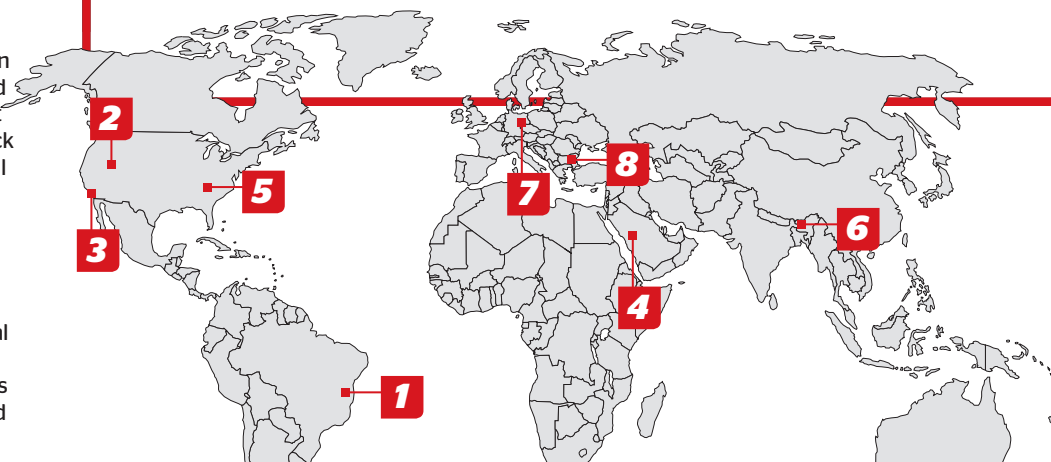
Bird die-off blamed on too much wine

8 **BUCHAREST, Romania** There was nothing mysterious about the death of a flock of birds in Romania last week—they simply were drunk, veterinarians said.

Residents of the Black Sea city of Constanta alerted authorities Saturday after they found dozens of dead starlings, fearing they may have been infected with bird flu, which triggered mass deaths in avian populations in 2004-06.

"Tests on five birds showed gizzards full of grape marc, which caused their death," Romeu Lazar, head of the city's veterinary authority said, referring to a pulpy residue that is a byproduct of winemaking.

The marc—the grape's solid remains—was presumed to have come from a winery, but the veterinary chief said he did not know where.



THE DIGIT

11,755.44

That's where the Dow Jones industrial average ended Wednesday, its highest level since September 2008.

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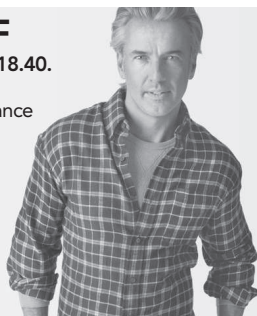
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& petites. Women's prices
slightly higher.



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Misses &
petites.



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suit separates & sportcoats, watches
and select home items.

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floor coverings, rugs, electronics & electronics,
cosmetics/fragrances, gift cards, jewelry trunk
shows, previous purchases, special orders, selected
licensed depts., special purchases, services, macys.
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Calvin Klein Jeans,
our greendog®, more.
Boys' 2-20; girls' 2-16;
infants' 3-24 mos.



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NFL PLAYOFFS

BEARS VS. SEAHAWKS, NOON SUNDAY, FOX

Bears reshuffled

Just in case they need it, we've rewritten the 'Super Bowl Shuffle' for this season

RedEye

We don't believe in jinxes, and we don't think there's any way possible to be too excited about a Bears playoff game at Soldier Field. That's why we've rewritten—with the help of readers and RedEye contributors—the classic "Super Bowl Shuffle" by the 1985 Bears and tailored it to the 2010 team. You know, just in case they feel like recording another video.

SPECIAL THANKS

We couldn't have done this without the help of readers and RedEye contributors who visited bit.ly/homersblog and contributed their ideas: Walter Brzeski, Vince LiFonti, Larry Bailey, Scott Bolohan, Julie DiCaro, @mberger55, Doc Nitty 34, Bobbi1969 and ChiTownHustler.

CHORUS

We are the Bears Shufflin' Crew,
2010 version, new and improved.
So much swag, we know we're good,
Beating down fools like you knew we could.
We don't care what the critics say,
Come game time, things will go our way.
We don't want to start no trouble,
We're back here to do the
Super Bowl Shuffle.

JAY CUTLER

I'm the QB, and though I'm not real punky,
On the field, this Hoosier gets funky.
My first name's Jay and I can get testy,
Might've seen me with Kristin Cavallari.
Hub 51, Gibsons, Tavern on Rush,
First part of the season? Man, I got crushed.
In case there's a feather I've yet to ruffle,
Watch me do the Super Bowl Shuffle.

DEVIN HESTER

Devin here, I'm ridiculous,
I'd like more catches, but I won't fuss.
Returnin' the ball is what I do,
Can't catch me, I hail from "The U."
Breakin' records when I touch the ball,
Got several pair of shoes going to the Hall.
Try to tackle me, your ankles will buckle,
I'm end zone-bound doin' the Super Bowl Shuffle.

JULIUS PEPPERS

I'm the new guy, they call me Pep,
Though all the naysayers say I lost a step.
Fooled them all when I chased down Vick,
Now they run away, say that I'm sick.
It ain't good enough just to play another game,
A Super Bowl ring is the reason I came.
I don't trip over bags that are duffed,
I'm just here doin' the Super Bowl Shuffle.

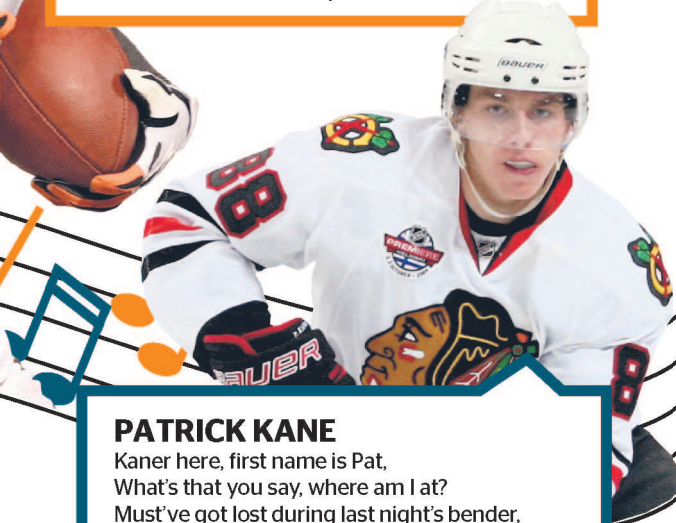
LANCE BRIGGS

My name is Briggs and I'm no zero,
I'm a real-life badass comic book hero.
Like a brick wall, I stop runners in their tracks,

Leave 'em starin' at the sky
flat on their backs.
I'll knock 'em for losses or
stop for no gain,
Try to run on me, the results
are the same.
I won't leave any more cars
crumpled,
I'm looking forward to the
Super Bowl Shuffle.

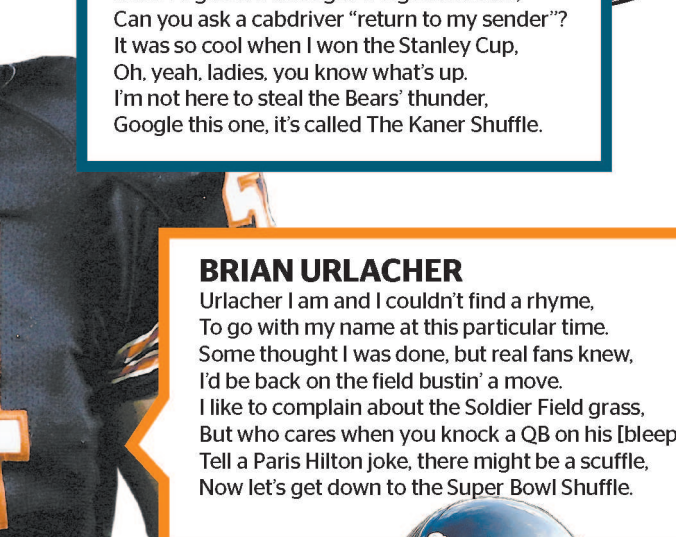
MATT FORTE

My name is Matt, and runnin's my Forte,
Give me off tackle and you'll pay all day.
I'm big, I'm strong, deceivingly fast,
I'll catch the rock and blow right past.
Like Marshall Faulk, I'm Martz's secret weapon,
At the end of my runs, you'll see me high steppin'.
I'm no Ced, I stay out of trouble,
But I do want to do the Super Bowl Shuffle.



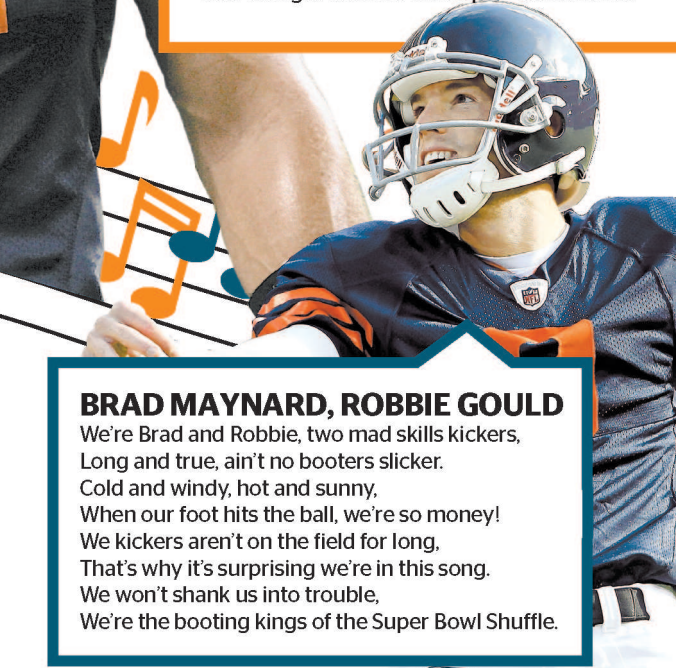
PATRICK KANE

Kaner here, first name is Pat,
What's that you say, where am I at?
Must've got lost during last night's bender,
Can you ask a cabdriver "return to my sender"?
It was so cool when I won the Stanley Cup,
Oh, yeah, ladies, you know what's up.
I'm not here to steal the Bears' thunder,
Google this one, it's called The Kaner Shuffle.



BRIAN URLACHER

Urlacher I am and I couldn't find a rhyme,
To go with my name at this particular time.
Some thought I was done, but real fans knew,
I'd be back on the field bustin' a move.
I like to complain about the Soldier Field grass,
But who cares when you knock a QB on his [bleep].
Tell a Paris Hilton joke, there might be a scuffle,
Now let's get down to the Super Bowl Shuffle.

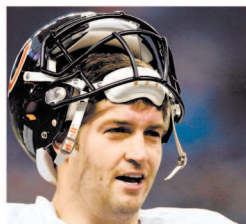


BRAD MAYNARD, ROBBIE GOULD

We're Brad and Robbie, two mad skills kickers,
Long and true, ain't no booters slicker.
Cold and windy, hot and sunny,
When our foot hits the ball, we're so money!
We kickers aren't on the field for long,
That's why it's surprising we're in this song.
We won't shank us into trouble,
We're the booting kings of the Super Bowl Shuffle.

BEAR TRACKER

The latest in
NFL playoffs buzz



Bear force
60 passes, Jay?



Heat rash
Bulls-Miami ticket
price tops Bears



Peanut allergy
Charles Tillman missed
practice, everyone else OK



Facial hair
Bears are sporting
full beards now



Polar Bears
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 <p>2006 Chrysler 300 C Blk, Roof, Lthr, Navi #46772A \$9,977</p>	 <p>2006 Ford Fusion V6, CD, Low Miles #11109A \$9,977</p>	 <p>2009 Kia Rio Red, LX, Auto, CD, Nice #XP15401 \$9,977</p>	 <p>2009 Chevy Aveo LT Blue, Auto, CD, Buckets #XP15315 \$9,977</p>	 <p>2009 Hyundai Accent GLS, CD, Great on Gas #XP15512 \$9,977</p>	 <p>2001 Cadillac Sedan DeVille Blk, Roof, Lthr, Clean #P15124A \$9,977</p>	 <p>2000 Dodge Caravan Silver #D1174A \$9,813</p>	 <p>2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser Blue #J1149B \$10,158</p>	 <p>2003 Acura TL Blk, Lthr, V6, Navi #46982A \$10,277</p>	 <p>2000 Dodge Caravan White #CH1087B \$10,323</p>	 <p>2003 Buick LeSabre White, Low Miles, Super Nice #XP15394 \$10,477</p>	 <p>2005 Dodge Magnum Red, Auto, Lthr, Roof #P15093A \$10,877</p>	 <p>2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee Silver, 4x4, Roof, Lthr #46555A \$10,977</p>	 <p>2009 Kia Spectra EX Gold, PW, PL, CD, Auto #XP15521 \$10,977</p>	 <p>2009 Pontiac G5 2Dr, Full Pwr, CD, Clean #MP15149 \$10,977</p>
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five on five

On shuffle

We rotate readers in and out of our Five on Five panel all the time. Sign up at redeyechicago.com/5on5.



TOPIC	JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@tribune.com	SARAH KUSTOK csnchicago.com	MATT OLSEN bit.ly/top-ten-sports	AMY FREEZE amy.freeze@foxtv.com	WHIZZER redeyechicago.com/5on5
1 How would you freshen up the "Super Bowl Shuffle" for the 2010-11 Bears?	Remove "Super Bowl" and replace it with "Super Lucky."	I bet Devin Hester can do "The Worm."	Let Mike Martz go "8 Mile" on a hip-hop track featuring an auto-tuned Lovie Smith.	"My name is Peppers, I stop 'em cold. Part of the defense, big and bold."	Have the lyrics tattooed on the players' arms.
2 What special plans do you have for watching the Bears game Sunday?	I plan to freeze my ass off at Soldier Field.	Face paint and cow bells.	I'll be at Soldier Field doing 12-ounce curls in the Waldron Deck till game time. Come find me.	I'll be in the folding chair behind the special teams (oh snap!).	I'll be sneaking into Soldier Field in Jimmy's coat. Congrats, Greenfield, you just gained 50 pounds.
3 How would an increase in the state income tax affect Chicago athletes?	Lance Briggs would downgrade from crashing a Lamborghini to a Rolls-Royce.	Cut down on dining out—time to buy some cookbooks.	They'll have to wipe their arse with fitties instead of hundos till their next big pay day.	The Hawks would have to cut back on shining their rings. #JewelTax	Joakim Noah would have to start dressing like a hobo. Hold on ...
4 What should the Fire do with their No. 9 MLS draft pick?	Trade it to the NHL for a real sport.	Hmm ... is David Beckham available?	Take David Beckham's unborn child or Martha from the Ladybugs.	Defender: We need a back line.	Does the Fire have a four-legged player yet? There's your answer.
5 Why did the Wolves have an 11 a.m. midweek game?	The Falcons Pee Wee A team needed the ice for its 2 p.m. practice.	Wolves early + Blackhawks late = perfect day of Chicago hockey.	Dunno, but with that 67 percent tax hike, I hope there's more. The unemployed will need something to do.	Second annual Weather Education Day with Da Freeze.	They wanted to be done in time to watch Derrick Rose make fools of the Bobcats.

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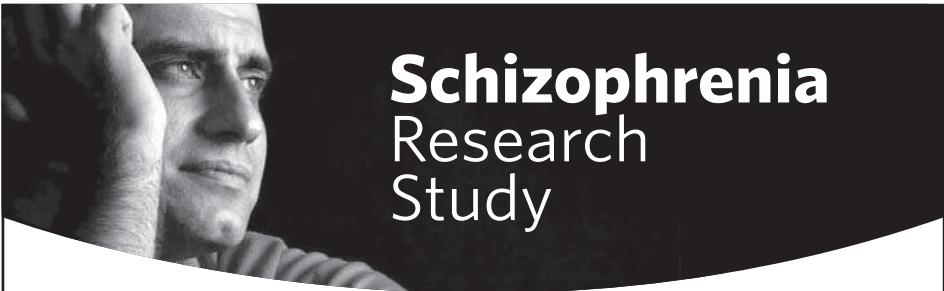
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CHARLOTTE 96, BULLS 91

'CATS EX FACTOR

Former Bull Thomas fuels Charlotte win

CHARLOTTE, N.C. In a back-and-forth game Wednesday night, the Bulls folded down the stretch and fell 96-91 to the Bobcats at Time Warner Cable Arena.

Tyrus Thomas burned his old team with big plays down the stretch and finished with 17 points and 13 rebounds. DJ. Augustin led the Bobcats with 22 points.

Carlos Boozer's 23 points and 14 rebounds led the Bulls. Derrick Rose struggled to 17 points and seven assists on 5-for-17 shooting.

"We let it slip," Rose said.

The Bobcats took the lead for good on Thomas' reverse layup with 1 minute, 14 seconds left. Following a Rose miss of a lefty driving shot, Thomas and Ronnie Brewer hustled to the sideline for the loose ball. Thomas appeared to knock it off Brewer—a call verified by video review—and Thomas celebrated by high-fiving courtside fans.

Stephen Jackson, who struggled until the fourth and was 5-for-16 at the time, then buried a fadeaway jumper over Luol Deng with 34.8 seconds left for a 92-89 lead. Following a timeout, Rose turned it over trying to find Deng in the lane.

The Bulls fouled DJ. Augustin, who pushed the lead to five with two free throws with 23.4 seconds left. The Bulls engineered a nifty out-of-bounds play that led to a Boozer score with 21.4 seconds left to pull them to within three.

Augustin added two more free throws with 18.3 seconds left. And Deng missed a 3-pointer to ice it.

Earlier, the Bulls erased all of a 17-point, first-half deficit and led the Bobcats 70-69 after three quarters.

The Bulls, who trailed 55-42 at halftime, took their first lead on Deng's layup with 64 seconds left in the third. The Bulls held the Bobcats to 6-for-20 shooting in the third.



The Bulls' Kurt Thomas (right) battles for a loose ball with Charlotte's Tyrus Thomas. GETTY IMAGES

GAME PLANNER

UIC at Milwaukee 7 p.m.
Loyola at Green Bay 7 p.m.
Denver vs. Miami 9:30 p.m. TNT

» The Cubs brought back another fan favorite Wednesday. Outfielder Reed Johnson, who played for the Cubs in 2008 and 2009, signed a minor league deal with no guaranteed money. The 34-year-old hit .262 in 202 at-bats last year.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

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» Indiana St. 59, Bradley 53
» Missouri St. 64, S. Illinois 51
» Seton Hall 78, DePaul 67
» N. Iowa 46, Illinois St. 44

» Blackhawks 4, Colorado 0 » Texas 4, Wolves 2 » Cubs Convention, which starts Friday, still not a sellout.

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Chicago has scored its first location of sub chain **Jersey Mike's** in the Loop (200 W. Monroe St.).



HIT THE DANCE FLOOR

We check out the newest West Loop nightclub

By Emily Van Zandt

When it comes to clubs, we're always hoping for something fresh to come along. When The Mid opened just before New Year's with the promise of being a music-centric venue, we were curious to see how it planned to up its game from the standard Red Bull-and-vodkas and flashing lights. The West Loop club resides in the former home of Mannequin and is open Fridays, Saturdays and some weekdays for special engagements. We stopped by on a recent Saturday to see if The Mid was off to a good start.

You won't get too cold... waiting in line outside. When we arrived just past midnight on a recent Saturday, it took only a few minutes to be let in to the venue cover-free. But we found ourselves in a longer line inside when we were ushered into

REVIEW

The Mid
306 N. Halsted St.
312-265-3990

Give it
some time



the basement to the mandatory coat check (\$4 per item).

It was nice to hear... a friendly "Welcome to The Mid!" from each staffer we passed on the way in. Security, coat checkers and bartenders all managed to be professional without being stuffy and made us feel like we had walked into a special occasion.

We really wish they hadn't... served our \$9 gin and tonics with straws. Not cocktail straws. Drinking straws. You may as well serve a beer with a funnel and tube. The thought behind serving drinks in plastic cups rather than glass seems clear, but the straws were a step too far.

You'll love the main floor if... you're looking for a standard club experience. DJ Nathan Scott, who will work as the house DJ in the main room, spun a solid mix of electronic-tinged tracks. The drinks were strong and delivered fast. VIP seating's plentiful and the lights were throbbing along with the music. While there was nothing particularly notable about the mix, if you're looking to dress up, dance and be seen, you won't be disappointed.

You're likely to see... a lot of club kids walking around. The crowd was fairly evenly mixed between minidress-wearing gals and blazer-wearing guys. The scene could easily swing more hipster depending on the type of DJ, so don't stereotype too soon.

THETICKER

Get more need-to-know
Nightlife news at
chicagonow.com/bottleblond

» The bartenders at **The Violet Hour** have launched their own blog. Check it out at partyon.damen.wordpress.com.

» **Blokes & Birds** is planning a seven-course beer dinner with California-based Lagunitas Brewing Company beer for Feb. 9.

» Did you know Jan. 17 is National Hot Buttered Rum Day? Yum!



METROMIX.COM

Visit us online for
nightlife reviews, deals,
photos and more.



The Mid
CHUAND. VOPHOTOS
FOR METROMIX

Be sure to check out ... the second floor. With a wide-open view of the downstairs dance floor, its own bar and a set of bathrooms, the upstairs balcony is the place to be to get away from the shoulder-to-shoulder madness downstairs. The stairs are steep, so high-heeled gals should make sure they're ready for a climb. The view (and breathing room) is worth it.

We'll come back when ... one of our favorite DJs is on the bill. For a new venue, The Mid's calendar is pretty impressive. Chicago-based DJs Nathan Scott and Gus Karas already are in rotation as the house DJs and electro-funk legend Afrika Bambaataa is on tap to perform Jan. 26. The DJs and music have the power to elevate the space from the standard club night and we're interested to see what happens when bigger names take the stage.

Don't panic ... about parking. Valet is available, but less than a block away is a well-lit pay-to-park lot that offers late-night spots for only \$6.

We really hope that ... they work out the kinks in the exit traffic flow. Instead of leaving the way we came in, we were told to make our way back through the packed main bar and dance floor to exit. Carrying bulky coats and purses, we felt inconvenienced and out of place on our way out.

Consider earplugs if ... the DJ whips out his airhorn again. Seriously, dude. This is not a Blackhawks game.

Bottom line: The Mid is a classic club through and through, and that's not necessarily a bad thing. If you're looking for a reliable place for an attractive crowd, bass-driving music, solid drinks and VIP upgrades, The Mid delivers in all categories. But if the place wants to be known as more of a music venue, it's up to the talent bookers to deliver something special.

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BARRY BRECHSEN PHOTO FOR METROMIX

Public House

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The new beer-centric bar from the owners of Bull & Bear opens Thursday and kicks off its weekend on Saturday with a performance by DJ Samantha Ronson.

Di Sotto Enoteca 200 E. Chestnut St. 312-482-8727

Want some of the same tasty dishes served at Davanti Enoteca minus that chilly walk from the Polk Street Pink Line stop? This Italian small-plates spot hidden below Gold Coast restaurant Francesca's on Chestnut has all the truffled egg toast you could want closer to downtown.

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Super-friendly staffers, spill-proof coffee cups and gourmet cupcakes big enough to require a fork to eat 'em have all earned our attention at this downtown bakery, the latest addition to the cupcakery scene.

Jersey Mike's 200 W. Monroe St. 312-263-0830

When our bag o' subs elicited spontaneous comments such as "Oh my gosh, there's a Jersey Mike's here now?" from passers-by, we're taking it as a hint that this franchise has fans. Its first Chicago location (there are plenty in the 'burbs) is just steps away from Jimmy John's.

Maude's Liquor Bar 840 W. Randolph St. 312-243-9712

This freshly opened, French-inspired West Loop bar and eatery already is packing people in with its hearty menu and creative cocktails.

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CITIZEN BAR

\$5 burgers; 364 W. Erie St. 312-640-1156.

COOPER'S

Half-price pizzas; 1232 W. Belmont Ave. 773-929-2667.

CORTLAND'S GARAGE

\$7 for 3 tacos; 1645 W. Cortland St. 773-862-7877.

FIVE STAR BAR

\$1.50 corn dogs; 1424 W. Chicago Ave. 312-850-2555.

MARBLE

\$2 for 20 wings;

3281 W. Armitage Ave. 773-252-9652.

POAG MAHONE'S

\$5 soft pretzels with cheese (3 p.m.): Dine-in only; 333 S. Wells St. 312-566-9100.

THE PONY

\$2 off all appetizers; 1638 W. Belmont Ave. 773-828-5055.

RAW BAR

60-cent oysters; 3720 N. Clark St. 773-348-7291.

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\$1-3 select appetizers; 1471 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-235-5577.

UNION PARK

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ARCOSTAR, MIKE MENTZER, HOP ON POP
9 p.m. \$7. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

THE BESNARD LAKES, FRANKIE ROSE AND THE OUTS, LIA ICES, A LULL
8 p.m. \$15. Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2501.

BUDDY GUY
9 p.m. \$50 (etix.com). Buddy Guy's Legends, 700 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-1190.

DEL REY, ELECTRIC HAWK, ARCTIC SLEEP
9:30 p.m. \$8. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.
- GOLDEN BIRTHDAY, E+, WINDBREAKER**
9 p.m. \$7. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

GOODBYE FAIRBANKS, I KNOW EVERYTHING
8:30 p.m. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.

HOT DOG BLUES JAM
9 p.m. Free. Catcher's Inn, 901 W. 35th St. 773-869-9411.

PAUL KOGUT AND DOUG MACDONALD
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

SPARE PARTS
10 p.m. Free. Aliveone, 2683 N. Halsted St. 773-348-9800.

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9 p.m. \$8-\$10. Abbey Pub and Restaurant, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

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8 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

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Asia, Friday, May 13 (\$34-\$38, 17+) at House of Blues.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY
A Rocket To The Moon, Valencia, Anarbor, Runner Runner, Go Radio, Saturday, April 16 (\$13-\$15, all ages) at Lincoln Hall.

The Cave Singers, Lia Ices, Thursday, April 7 (\$14, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

Chamberlin, Tuesday, Feb. 15 (\$8-\$10, 18+) at Schubas.

Gord Downie, Julie Doiron, Saturday, April
- 23 (\$25, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

mike watt + the missingmen, Friday, April 15 (\$15, 21+) at Schubas.

Murs, Friday, March 4 (\$15, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

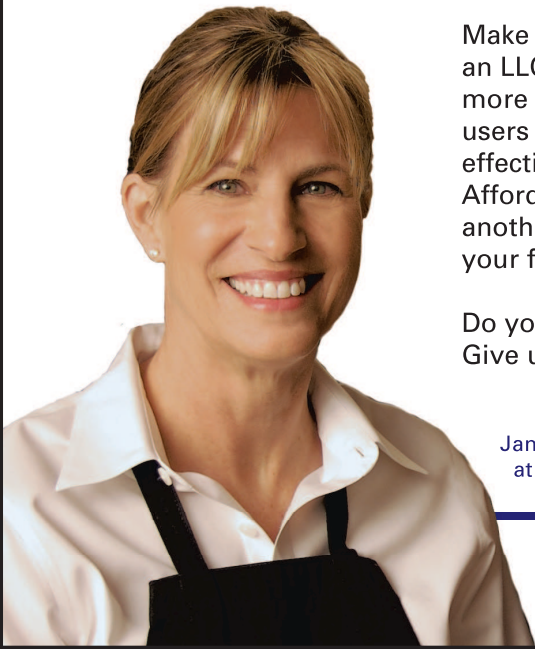
Over The Rhine, Friday, April 8 (\$22, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

The Pains Of Being Pure At Heart, Twin Shadow, Weakness, Wednesday, April 27 (\$15, all ages) and Thursday, April 28 (\$15, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

Sugar & Gold, Hollywood Holt, Yip Deceiver, Sunday, March 6 (\$10, 18+) at Schubas.

The Wood Brothers, Friday, April 1 (\$20-\$22, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

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WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Actress Spacek
 - 6 Puncture
 - 10 up; tallies
 - 14 "Bye, Jacques"
 - 15 Cincinnati, _
 - 16 Sketch
 - 17 Ethical
 - 18 Small brook
 - 19 Detest
 - 20 Periodic table listings
 - 22 appropriate; considered fit
 - 24 Word of lament
 - 25 Belittle
 - 26 Heavy artillery
 - 29 Sudden increase
 - 30 sided; unilateral
 - 31 Missshapen folklore fellow
 - 33 Obstacles
 - 37 Rocky _ ice cream
 - 39 Surrender
 - 41 Threesome
 - 42 Go into
 - 44 High-powered beam
 - 46 Unwell
 - 47 Blanket
 - 49 Interfere
 - 51 Photos with no clue when they were taken
 - 54 Burrowing animal
 - 55 voyage; first trip
 - 56 Threatening
 - 60 Schwinn, e.g.
 - 61 Concept
 - 63 Leg bone
 - 64 Odd's opposite
 - 65 Fuel, for some
 - 66 Official order
 - 67 Relaxation
 - 68 Comes to a close
 - 69 Classroom furniture
- DOWN**
- 1 Identical
 - 2 False deity
 - 3 Beget children
 - 4 Sailor
 - 5 Symbol of Christmas

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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60						61	62				63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

- warmth
- 6 Varieties
- 7 and that
- 8 Feel miserable
- 9 More daring
- 10 Follower of a religion
- 11 Play
- 12 Went out with
- 13 Stockholm resident
- 21 Child's caretaker
- 23 Breakfast order
- 25 Sword fights
- 26 Apple center
- 27 Shortly
- 28 Orderly
- 29 Enjoy finger painting
- 32 Greased
- 34 Parched
- 35 Fish's organ
- 36 Shoe bottom
- 38 Self-indulgent
- 40 Evil spirit
- 43 Learn by _; memorize
- 45 Akin
- 48 City of gondolas
- 50 Make up one's mind
- 51 Brown shade
- 52 Wide-eyed
- 53 Levees
- 54 Lunch & dinner
- 56 Anthropologist Margaret _
- 57 Wading bird
- 58 Actor _ Nolte
- 59 Gangster guns
- 62 Actor Ameche

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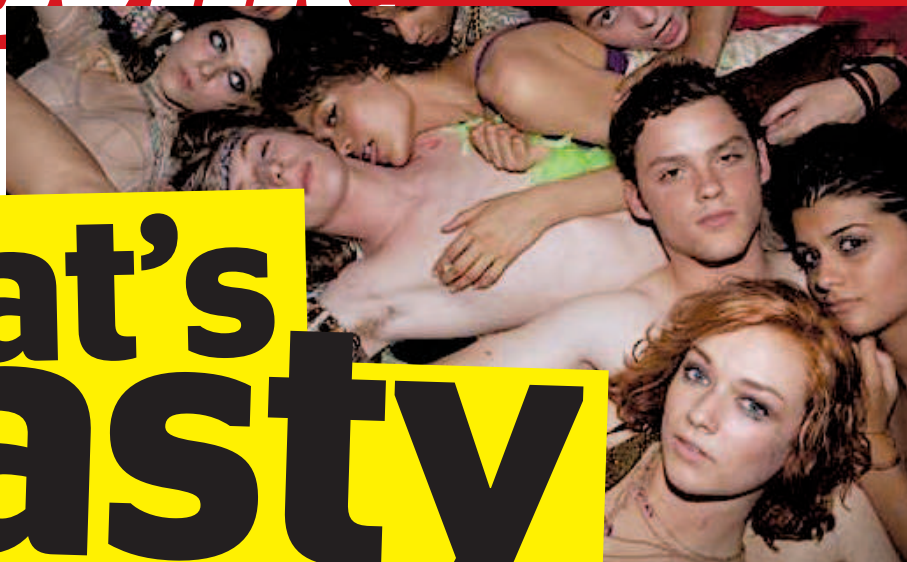
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That's nasty



MTV debuting racy 'Skins'—how do other scandalous shows stack up?

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Drinking and drugs and underwear, oh my! MTV has released a teaser for its adaptation of "Skins" (left), and while it's not as wild as the British original, we're sure plenty of parents will be rushing to cover their kids' eyes when the show kicks off at 9 p.m. Monday. This got RedEye nostalgic for other tawdry teen TV characters—and their squeaky-clean counterparts. Here are our faves.

'THE O.C.' 2003-07



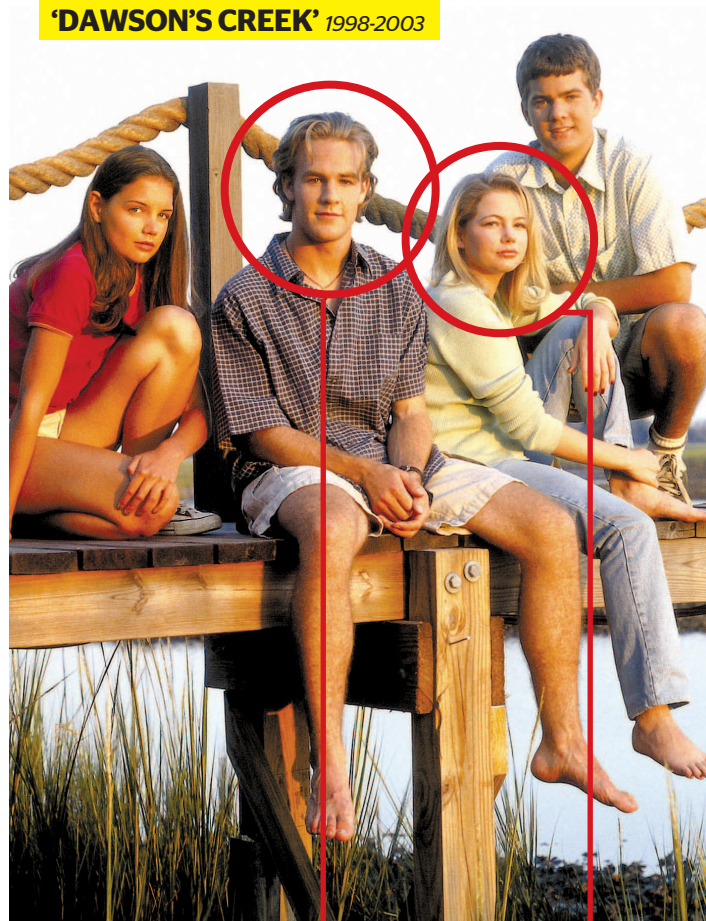
THE NICE Seth Cohen

Fans of "The O.C." were supposed to fall in love with bad-boy Ryan, but bumbling, dorky Seth was just too adorable to ignore. A lover of Christmas sweaters, Death Cab for Cutie and comics, Seth's major crime on the show was attempting to play the field—and failing miserably.

THE NAUGHTY Marissa Cooper

Her mom, Julie, probably was naughtier—after all, she did sleep with Marissa's teenage ex-boyfriend. But Marissa had her fair share of exploits, from ODing on prescription drugs in Mexico to a wild car chase with her ex that ends in her death.

'DAWSON'S CREEK' 1998-2003



THE NICE Dawson Leery

We discovered evidence of just how aw-shucks 15-year-old Dawson is in the show's premiere. Clue 1: His female best friend has unrestricted ladder access to his bedroom. Clue 2: Said best friend also sleeps in his bed—and both are fully clothed. They're called hormones, people!

THE NAUGHTY Jen Lindley

We knew Dawson wouldn't stay innocent for long when this brazen woman from NYC moved to the Creek. Jen tries to leave her non-virginal club-kid past behind, but she gets involved in a drunken mishap with *real* bad girl Abby, who ends up drowning. That blasted creek!

'GOSSIP GIRL' 2007-present



THE NICE Dan Humphrey

Are we noticing a theme of naive guys here? Humphrey could be Seth Cohen's long-lost brother—until he meets Serena van der Woodsen and falls under her lusty spell. Their relationship takes a turn for the icky when Dan and Serena realize their parents used to date—and then keep hooking up anyway.

THE NAUGHTY Chuck Bass

You just can't help but love Chuck and his womanizing, money-blowing, natty-suit-wearing ways—except for when he does things like attempting to molest Dan's sister in the show's pilot. Will he ever be able to commit to girlfriend Blair? Eh ... we're not optimistic.

'TEEN MOM' 2009-present

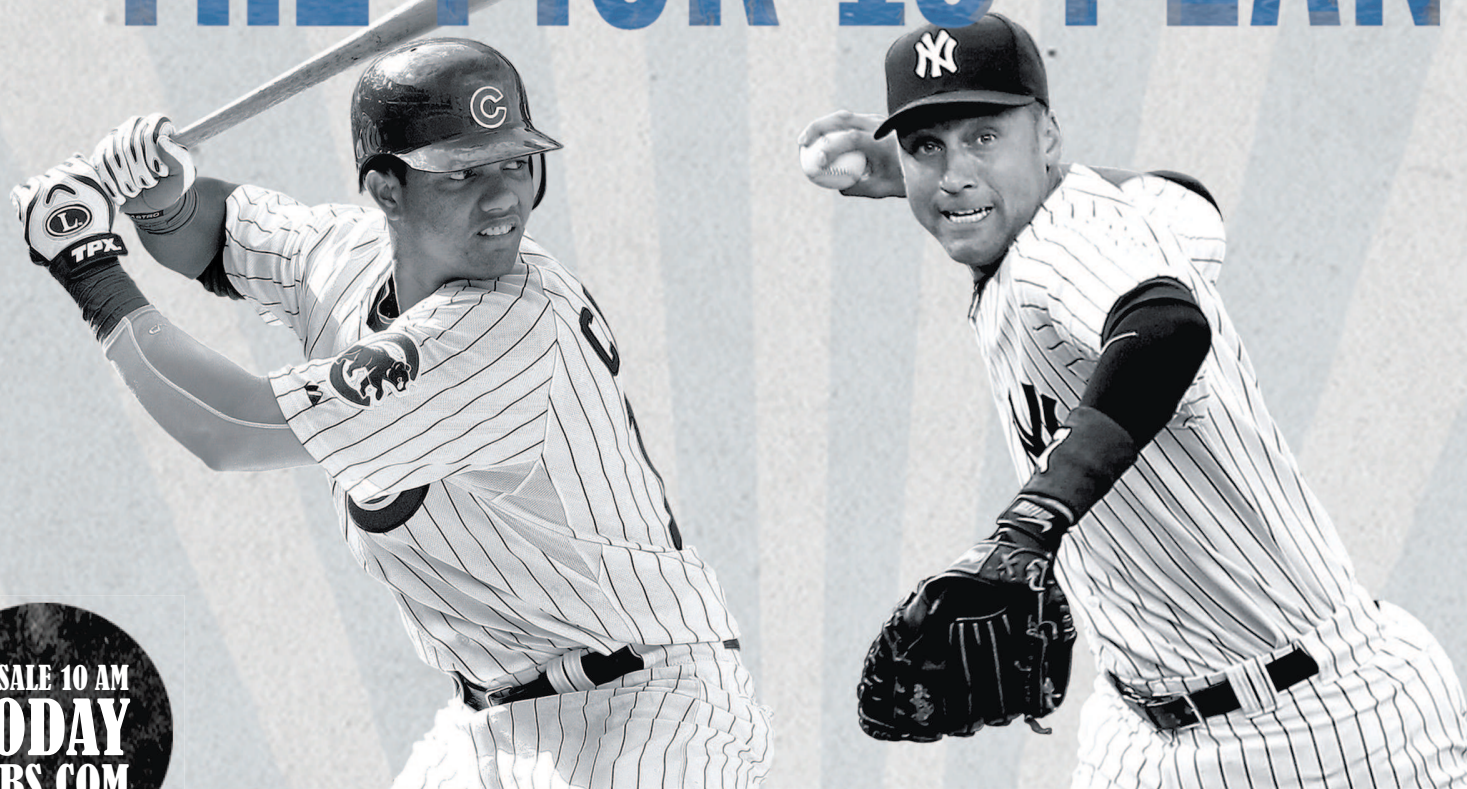


THE NAUGHTY (NOBODY ON THIS SHOW SEEMS THAT NICE)

Amber Portwood

The fact that Amber was charged with domestic battery and child neglect after assaulting her boyfriend in front of her daughter lands her an automatic spot on this list. It seems she's very, very good at making very, very bad decisions.

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red hot



Kate Hudson
MCT FILE

Forrest crunk

Now that's a Wildcat. Chet Hanks, son of Tom Hanks and a student at Northwestern, has released a rap single under the name Chet Haze called "White and Purple," a knockoff of the Wiz Khalifa song "Black and Yellow" that focuses on the three college "basics" of "girls, money and weed." We've heard the rhymes, and let's just say Hanks might not want to drop out of college to pursue a rap career just yet.



Conan O'Brien
GETTY IMAGES

Kardashians krash Sears

The Kardashians are coming out with a new clothing line, K? The Kardashian Collection of apparel, lingerie and accessories will launch at Sears in August, Women's Wear Daily reports. "We love Sears. There is a Sears right near our house," Kourtney Kardashian said.

Pregnancy test?

Will Seth Rogen be in the "Knocked Up" sequel? Even he doesn't know. The "Green Hornet" star told **online.com** he "just read ... the other day" that director Judd Apatow would be reprising Paul Rudd's and Leslie Mann's characters from the 2007 movie but hasn't talked to him about it. Pick up the phone, Judd!

txtable

THE DIGIT

19

That's the number of NAACP Image Awards nominations Tyler Perry received Wednesday, **thr.com** reports. His movies "For Colored Girls" and "Why Did I Get Married Too?" will compete against each other for best picture, and TV's "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" also received nods.

Perry's portfolio

Which of the following is NOT a Tyler Perry movie or TV show title? Text "**perry**" followed by the number of your answer to **87708**. We'll send you a return text letting you know if you got it right.

1. "Madea and Me"
2. "Meet the Browns"
3. "Madea Goes to Jail"
4. "Daddy's Little Girls"

"Life is short. I have kids and family and life to live. I don't think about it too much. And I'm sure he's busy."

Conan O'Brien on whether he'll ever speak to Jay Leno again after the "Tonight Show" fallout, according to **ew.com**

Timing is everything

The celebrity baby boom isn't over. The latest mom-to-be: Kate Hudson. Unnamed sources tell both **people.com** and **usmagazine.com** that Hudson is expecting with her boyfriend, Muse frontman Matthew Bellamy. The news of Hudson's pregnancy comes just days after her ex Owen Wilson announced he's going to be a father soon. Interesting.

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